

SILICONE BRIDGE JOINT SEALER

Effective: August 1, 1995

Revised: February 7, 2005

Description. This work shall consist of furnishing all labor, equipment, technical assistance and materials necessary to install the silicone joint sealer as shown on the plans and as specified herein.

When specified, a polymer concrete nosing compatible with the silicone sealant as required by the sealant manufacturer shall be installed. The minimum dimensions for a polymer concrete nosing cross section are 40 mm (1 1/2 in.) deep by 90 mm (3 1/2 in.) wide. The polymer concrete shall be furnished and installed according to the Special Provision for "Polymer Concrete".

Materials:

- (a) Silicone Joint Sealer. The silicone joint sealer shall be rapid cure, self-leveling, cold applied, two component silicone sealant. The sealant, upon curing, shall demonstrate resilience, flexibility and resistance to moisture and puncture. The sealant shall also demonstrate excellent adhesion to portland cement concrete, polymer concrete and steel over a range of temperatures from -34 to 54°C (-30 to 130°F) while maintaining a watertight seal. The sealant shall not contain any solvents or diluents that cause shrinkage or expansion during curing. Acid cure sealants are not acceptable. The date of manufacture shall be provided with each lot. Materials twelve months old or older from the date of manufacture will not be accepted. The manufacturer shall certify that the sealant meets or exceeds the following test requirements before installation begins. The Department reserves the right to test representative samples from material proposed for use.

Physical Properties:

Each component as supplied:

Specific Gravity (ASTM D1475)	1.2-1.4
Extrusion Rate (MIL-5-8802)	200 - 600 grams per minute
Flow	Self-leveling
Durometer Hardness, Shore (ASTM D 2240)	40-80
"00" (0° and 25°C ± 1°C (32°F and 77±3°F.))	
Ozone and U.V. (ASTM C 793)	No chalking, cracking or
Resistance	bond loss after 5,000 hours.

After Mixing:

Tack Free Time (ASTM C679)	60 minutes max.
Joint Cure Rate (% of total cure)	50% within 4 - 6 hours
	75% within 24 hours
	100% within 48 - 160 hours

Upon Complete Cure: (ASTM D-3569¹)

Joint Elongation (adhesion to concrete/steel/polymer concrete)	600% min
Joint Modulus	21-103 kPa (3-15 psi) @ 100% elongation

¹Modified; Sample cured 2 days at 25±1°C (77±2°F) 50±5% relative humidity

- (b) Backer Rod. The backer rod shall conform to ASTM D5249, Type 3.

CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

General. Technical assistance provided by the manufacturer during surface preparation and installation shall be furnished at no additional cost to the Department. The Contractor shall furnish the Engineer with the manufacturer's written product information, installation procedures, and instructional video at least two weeks prior to installation. The Contractor, the manufacturer's representative, and the Engineer shall meet to review and clarify installation procedures, and requirements prior to starting the work. A technical representative must be present for the start of surface preparations and installation for at least one day. The Contractor shall contact the manufacturer at least two weeks prior to installation.

When placing the silicone against concrete, the concrete surface shall be dry. For newly placed concrete, the concrete shall be fully cured and allowed to dry out a minimum of 7 additional days prior to placement of the silicone. Cold, wet, inclement weather will require an extended drying time.

(a) Surface Preparation:

- (1) Sandblasting. Both faces of the joint shall be sandblasted. A separate pass for each face for the full length of the joint and to the design depth of the center of the backer rod will be required. The nozzle shall be held at an angle of 30-90 degrees to the joint face, at a distance of 25-50 mm (1 - 2 in.).

For portland cement concrete and polymer concrete surfaces, sandblasting will be considered acceptable when both joint faces have a roughened surface with clean, exposed aggregate. The surface shall be free of foreign matter or plastic residue.

For steel surfaces, sandblasting will be considered acceptable when the steel surfaces have been cleaned to an SSPC-SP10 degree of cleanliness.

After sandblasting is completed, the joint shall be cleaned of debris using compressed air with a minimum pressure of 620 kPa (90 psi). The air compressor shall be equipped with traps to prevent the inclusion of water and/or oil in the air line.

- (2) Priming. This operation will immediately follow sandblasting and cleaning and will only be permitted to proceed with the air and substrate temperatures are at least 5°C (41°F) and rising. Sandblasting, priming and sealing must be performed on the same day. The entire sandblasted surface shall be primed using a brush applied primer. The primer shall be allowed to dry a minimum of one hour or more until it is thoroughly dry, whichever is longer, before proceeding. For steel surfaces, the minimum drying time shall be extended to 90 minutes when the substrate temperature is below 15°C (60°F).

For portland cement concrete and polymer concrete, the primer shall be in according to the manufacturer's recommendations. For steel surfaces, the primer shall be a rust inhibiting primer recommended by the sealant manufacturer.

The primer shall be supplied in original containers and shall have a "use-by" date clearly marked on them. Only primer, freshly poured from the original container into clean pails will be permitted. The primer must be used immediately. All primer left in the pail after priming shall be disposed of and shall not be reused.

(b) Joint Installation:

- (1) Backer Rod Placement. The backer rod shall be installed to a uniform depth as specified on the plans and as recommended by the manufacturer. All splices in the backer rod shall be taped to prevent material loss during sealing. The backer rod shall be installed to within 3 mm (1/8 in.) tolerance prior to sealing.
- (2) Sealant Placement. The sealant shall be 13 mm (1/2 in.) thick within ± 3 mm (1/8 in.) tolerance as measured in the center of the joint at the thinnest point. The sealant thickness shall be measured during installation every ± 600 mm (± 2 ft). Adjustments to correct sealant thickness to within tolerance shall be made immediately before the sealant begins to set up. Sealant placement will only be permitted when the air and substrate temperatures are above 5°C (41°F) and 2.8°C (5°F) above the dew point. The joint must be kept clean and dry during sealing. If the joint becomes wet and/or dirty during sealing, the operation will be halted until the joint has been restored to a clean and dry state.

Sealing shall be performed using a pneumatic gun approved by the sealant manufacturer. Prior to sealing, the gun shall be inspected to insure that it is in proper working order and that it is being operated at the recommended air pressure.

The gun must demonstrate proper mixing action before sealant will be allowed into the joint. Unmixed sealant will not be permitted in the joint. All unmixed sealant found in the joint will be removed and replaced at the Contractors expense.

After the Engineer has determined that the pneumatic gun is functioning properly, the joint shall be sealed to the thickness and depth as shown on the plans. The sealant must be allowed to achieve initial set before opening the joint to traffic.

End of seal treatment at vertical faces of curbs, sidewalks or parapets shall be as recommended by the manufacturer and as shown on the plans.

Sealant placed incorrectly shall be removed and replaced by the Contractor at no additional cost to the Department.

- (3) Field Testing. A minimum of one joint per bridge per joint configuration will be tested by the Engineer by performing a Pull Test. The sealant shall be allowed to cure for a minimum of 24 hours before testing. The locations for the tests will be determined by the Engineer. The tests will be performed per the manufacture's written instructions. As part of the test, the depth and thickness of the sealant will be verified. All joint system installations failing to meet the specifications shall be removed and replaced, by the Contractor, to the satisfaction of the Engineer at no additional cost to the Department. In addition, the "Pull Test" is a destructive test, the Contractor shall repair the joint after completion of the test per the manufacturer's written instructions at no additional cost to the Department.

Method of Measurement. The installed joint sealer will be measured in meters (feet) along the centerline of the joint.

Basis of Payment. The silicone joint sealer measured as specified will be paid for at the contract unit price per meter (foot) for SILICONE JOINT SEALER, of the size specified. The size is defined as the joint opening at 10°C (50°F), rounded to the nearest 13 mm (½ inch). When a polymer concrete nosing is specified it shall not be included in this item but will be paid for according to the Special Provision for "Polymer Concrete".